



Application No. 10/619,940
Amendment dated June 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A structure ~~for steering light~~, comprising:
a base;
a first conductive later overlying a portion of said base;
a flexure assembly operably coupled to the base; and
a beam layer overlying and coupled to said flexure assembly, said beam layer adapted to rotate relative to said base.
- 2-3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 1 wherein a portion of underlying edges of said flexure assembly are adapted to contact said base upon rotation of said beam layer.
- 5-6. (Cancelled)
7. (Original) The structure of claim 1 wherein said flexure assembly comprises a torsion beam having first and second generally parallel arms each coupled to a central beam that is generally orthogonal to said first and second arms.
8. (Original) The structure of claim 7 wherein said first and second arms are coupled to said beam layer.
- 9-13. (Cancelled)
14. (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 1 wherein a portion of underlying edges of said flexure assembly and said beam layer are configured to contact said base upon rotation of said beam layer.



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15. (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 4 wherein said beam layer comprises a substantially planar surface when said portion of underlying edges of the flexure assembly are in contact with said base.

16-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 1 wherein the beam layer is adapted to reflect light.

30. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 1 wherein a portion of the flexure assembly comprises an I-beam.

31. (Currently Amended) A structure ~~for steering light~~, comprising:

a base;
a conductive element overlying a portion of the base;
a beam layer spaced apart from the base and coupled to a rotation device, the rotation device disposed between the beam layer and the base, the rotation device adapted to permit rotation of the beam layer relative to the base, and the rotation device adapted to maintain a substantially planar beam layer surface.

32. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 wherein the conductive element comprises a stacked conductive element have a thinner portion and a thicker portion, the thicker portion disposed closer to a beam layer axis of rotation than is the thinner portion.

33. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 32 wherein a voltage applied to the conductive element to rotate the beam layer is less than a voltage needed to rotate the beam layer if the conductive element was uniformly as thick as the thinner portion.

34. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 wherein the conductive element comprises at least two conductive layers having different areas.

35. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 wherein the conductive element comprises a step-shaped conductive element.

36. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 wherein a portion of an edge of the rotation device is adapted to contact the base upon rotation of the beam layer.

37. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 wherein a portion of an edge of the beam layer is adapted to contact the base upon rotation of the beam layer.

38. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 wherein the rotation device is adapted to rotate when a voltage differential is applied between the conductive element and the beam layer.

39. (Previously Presented) The structure as in claim 31 further comprising a second conductive element positioned to provide a different directional rotation of the beam layer.

40. (Original) A method of steering light, the method comprising:
providing a structure for steering light, the structure comprising;
a base;
a conductive element overlying a portion of the base; and
a beam layer spaced apart from the base and coupled to a rotation device,
the rotation device disposed between the beam layer and the base;
applying a voltage to the conductive element to cause the beam layer to rotate to a desired position, the rotation device maintaining a substantially planar beam layer surface when the beam layer is in the desired position; and
directing a light at the beam layer.

41. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 40 further comprising applying a second voltage to the conductive element to cause the beam layer to rotate to a second desired position.

42. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 41 wherein the voltage is a positive voltage and the second voltage is a negative voltage.